



CARECEN

CENTRAL AMERICAN RESOURCE CENTER / CENTRO DE RECURSOS CENTROAMERICANOS

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March 15, 2007

The Honorable Ken Salazar
702 Senate Hart Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Salazar:

On behalf of the Central American Resource Center (CARECEN), a nonprofit organization serving over 40,000 families a year in LA County, we are writing to thank you for introducing the National Museum of the American Latino Community Commission Act of 2007 (S 500). Part of our organization's mission is "promoting cultural diversity". We offer our strong and unqualified support of this legislation aimed to establish a federal commission to explore the chances of creating a "National Museum of the American Latino" in Washington, DC.

The lack of a Latino-focused institution located at the National Mall has long been of great concern to us. As you know, some of the most significant museums in our country sideline the National Mall between the United States Capitol and the Washington Monument. These museums reflect the history, culture, and achievements of the people of the United States yet few if any reflect the diaspora which is the American Latino community and its significant role in the history and culture of this country.

The Latino community faces many challenges today. The lack of visibility, however, to children, families and visitors who go to Washington, DC is no longer tenable and we believe the time to exemplify the deep roots American Latinos have in this country is now.

Immediate passage of S 500 is a critical first step to remedying this unfortunate situation and creating an institution devoted to the research and study of American Latino life, art, history, and culture. We thank your leadership and look forward to working with you on advancing this historic effort.

Sincerely,

Angela Sanbrano
Executive Director
Central American Resource Center

